

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 778

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of the deceased gospel singers and recognize the illustrious careers of the pioneering quartet groups to be celebrated at the Second Annual Gospel Quartet Convention in Nashville.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor and salute those artists who, through their extraordinary talents, have brought and continue to bring great renown to the State of Tennessee and its musical traditions; and

WHEREAS, the pioneering quartet groups and the deceased gospel singers to be celebrated at the Gospel Quartet Convention in Nashville are outstanding artists, who have shared their tremendous talents in the glory and praise of God through song; and

WHEREAS, the Second Annual Gospel Quartet Convention to be held in Nashville will bring together gospel quartets and singers in the State of Tennessee to perform songs of praise, and to honor the many deceased gospel performers and ground-breaking gospel quartets who opened the doors of opportunity for the artists who have followed in their footsteps; and

WHEREAS, among the deceased gospel singers to be honored are: Little Axe, Archer Brownee, Amon Babb, Sr., Paul Babb, Mattie Babb, John Battle, Mother Beech, Mother Baxter, Albert Phillips, Joe Ross, Jr., William Stratton, Al Simpson, Gilbert Thomas, James Hill, Larry Horner, Louise Hemphill, Walker Hardin, Jack Williams, Nathaniel Irvin, the Reverend Jones, Dorothy Horner, Bobbie Corlew, Larry Moore, George Borne, and James Brewer; and

WHEREAS, also to be honored are deceased gospel singers: Ernest Jennings, Gerry Jones, Dorothy Love, Willie Love, Delton Manning, Raymond Mills, the Reverend Sam McCrary, the Reverend Boles, the Reverend Cross, David Dowell, Bobby Dismuke, Henry Edwards, Jimmy Henrick, John Verge, Larry Webb, Fred Wilson, Nathaniel Weaver, George Gracey, Sally

Jackson, Henry Jones, Cornelia Northington, Lawerance Knight, Dave Nortington, Teddy Green, and the Reverend Pettus; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the Gospel Quartet Convention will recognize the lives and works of deceased gospel performers: Claud Anthony, James Babb, Cecil Babb, George Babb, James Boleyjack, Ike Burke, Frank Newsome, Dorothy Presley, Beverly Ross, Brother Satterfield, Roscoe Shelton, Leon Gouch, Donald Holt, Helen Howell, Bobby Hatton, Billy Joe, Rufus Crothers, Sonny Jackson, Don Yarborough, Morris Pollard, Roy Davis, Albert Collier, Jesse Galbreath, and Paul Quaryles; and

WHEREAS, the Convention will also salute deceased gospel performers: Howard Jennings, Willie Lewis, Jimmy Love, Little Man, Brother McGee, Joseph Maples, Clarence Mills, Harry Crook, John Carter, Dooney, Horace Ewing, Robert Gardner, Robert Tolliver, Jr., John Wells, Johnny Whittaker, Rufus Watkins, the Reverend Wilson, Harold Crothers, the Reverend Jasper, Dorothy Pollard, Iva Jean Weaver, Martin J. Cock, Wallace Robertson, Bill Galbreath, Roosevelt Ross, Jr., Clarence Ridley, Charles Burney, Forest Wiggins, the Reverend Johnny Mitchell, Lisa Chambers, and Steve Lewis; and

WHEREAS, the Convention will further honor the pioneering gospel quartet groups of the past, present, and future; among these groups are: the Fairfield Four, the Radio Four, the Golden Harps, the Echoes of Zion, Fireside, Watson Grove, the Scott Singers, the Spiritual Allstars, the Mighty Redeemers, the Harmony Kings, Free Spirit, the Chosen Ones, the Voices of Love, the Ross Sisters, the Anointed Men, the New Travelling Stars, Clouds of Heaven, the Chimes of Canaan, Freedom of Praise, the Brothers of Christ, the United Gospel Singers, the Canaan Band, the Bright Star Harmonizers, the Spirit of Memphis, the Swanee Trumpeters, the Marvin Twins, Wings of Faith, and the Jubilee Hummingbirds; and

WHEREAS, additional quartet groups to be honored include: the Fisk Jubilee Singers, the Philco Singers, Bass Street, the Skylarks, the LK Singers, the Olive Branch Singers, Bobby Jones and the Royal Singers, the National Tones, the Israelite Travellers, the Dixie Travellers, Total Peace, the Hemphill Singers, the Ross Brothers, the Jackson Brothers, Faith Connection, the WWB Singers, the Spiritual Messengers, Love and Devotion, the Voices of Praise, the Major Harmonizers, Shouting John and the Spiritual Keys, the Straightway Singers, the Heavenly

Gospel Singers, Jeremiah and Nancy Dixon, the Joy Boys, the River Jordan Singers, the Gospelettes, and the Silverleaf Harmonizers; and

WHEREAS, also to be honored are pioneering gospel quartets, groups, and performers such as: the Soul Seekers, the Joyful Aires, the Gospel Stirrers, the Bryant Sisters, the Babb Sisters, Love Train, the Dowell Sisters, the Jewel Trio, the Gospel Flames, the Sons of Grace, Oliver Branch, Sally Jackson, the Spence Singers, Old Homestead, the Bender Brothers, the Silver Tones, the Hebrew Echoes, the Gospel Aires, the Clarksville Soul Stirrers, the Sons of Glory, the Ross Juniors, the Jones Brothers, the True Notes, Moments of Joy, and the Praise Dancers; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause to recognize the bountiful talents and good works of these exceptional performers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor the memory of the many deceased gospel performers and pay tribute to the pioneering work of past, present, and future gospel quartets, groups, and performers, reflecting fondly upon their tremendous service in the glory and praise of God through song. In addition, we salute the Second Annual Gospel Quartet Convention of Nashville as it pays further tribute to these talented performers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.